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February 25, 2005

Box Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicants: Howard M. Kingston

Assignee: Metara, Inc.

Title: Method And Apparatus For Automated In-Process, Isotope Dilution  
Threshold And Quantification Measurement Mass Spectrometry

Application No.: 10/004,627

Filing Date: December 4, 2001

Examiner: James P. Hughes

Group Art Unit: 2883

Docket No.: M-15307 US

Confirmation No.: 6740

Irvine, California  
February 25, 2005

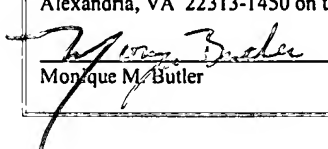
Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents in the above-identified application:

- (1) Return Postcard;
- (2) This Transmittal Letter (1 page);
- (3) Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages);
- (4) Form PTO/SB/08A & Form PTO/SB/08B (2 pages);
- (5) Copy of European Search Report for International Application No. 01996118.4-2113-US0146539; and
- (6) Copy of three (3) cited references.

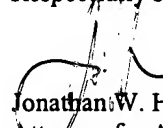
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

  
Monique M. Butler

February 25, 2005  
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jonathan W. Hallman  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 42,622



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Howard M. Kingston  
Assignee: Metara, Inc.  
Title: Method And Apparatus For Automated In-Process, Isotope Dilution  
Threshold And Quantification Measurement Mass Spectrometry  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(B) WITH  
CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(E)(1)**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § § 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants wish to call the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B (Total 2 pages) to the Examiner's attention for the above-identified patent application. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed. The documents were first cited by the European Search Report EP Application No. 01996118.4-2113-US0146539. The relevance of any foreign language documents is explained in the accompanying European Search Report.

Citation of the above documents shall not be construed as:

1. an admission that the documents are necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention;
2. a representation that a search has been made, other than as described above; or

3. an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

The undersigned hereby certifies in accordance with § 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

**Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)**

Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.


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Monique M. Butler

February 25, 2005  
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jonathan W. Hallman  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 42,622



Substitute for form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		Application Number	10/004,627
		Filing Date	December 4, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Howard M. Kingston
		Art Unit	2883
		Examiner Name	James P. Hughes
Sheet 2	of 2	Attorney Docket Number	M-15307 US

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		STEWART I. I. et al.; "Development in the Electrospray Mass Spectrometry of Inorganic Species; Trac, Trends in Analytical Chemistry. Cambridge, GB; vol. 15; no. 2; 02/01/1996.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.